

IN THE DRAWINGS:

In the Office Action at page 2, numbered item 3, the Examiner objected to the drawings. In order to overcome these objections, replacement figures are submitted herewith. The sheet containing FIG. 1 replaces the original sheet including FIG. 1 and is now designated "Prior Art." FIG. 2 replaces the original sheet including FIG. 2 and is now designated "Prior Art." FIGS. 3A and 3B replaces the original sheet including FIGS. 3A and 3B and is now designated "Prior Art." Approval of these changes to the Drawings is respectfully requested.

For the convenience of the Examiner, an annotated sheet showing the changes made is attached. Approval of these changes to the Drawings is respectfully requested.

REMARKS

INTRODUCTION

In accordance with the foregoing, claims 1 and 11 have been cancelled. No new matter is being presented, and approval and entry are respectfully requested.

Claims 2-7, 9, 10, and 12-18 are pending and under consideration. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

ENTRY OF RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.116

Applicants request entry of this Rule 116 Response and Request for Reconsideration because:

(a) the only rejected claims, claims 1 and 11 have been canceled thereby at least reducing the issues for appeal; and/or

(b) it is believed that the cancellation of claims 1 and 11 puts this application into condition for allowance, since only allowed claims 2-7, 9-10, and 12-18 remain pending.

The Manual of Patent Examining Procedures sets forth in §714.12 that "[a]ny amendment that would place the case either in condition for allowance or in better form for appeal may be entered." (Underlining added for emphasis) Moreover, §714.13 sets forth that "[t]he Proposed Amendment should be given sufficient consideration to determine whether the claims are in condition for allowance and/or whether the issues on appeal are simplified." The Manual of Patent Examining Procedures further articulates that the reason for any non-entry should be explained expressly in the Advisory Action.

OBJECTIONS TO THE DRAWINGS

In the Office Action at page 2, numbered item 3, the drawings were objected to. In view of these objections, corrections to FIGS. 1, 2, 3A and 3B have been made. Replacement figures have been submitted herewith. Therefore, the outstanding drawing objections should be resolved. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding objections to the drawings are respectfully requested.

OBJECTIONS TO THE INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

In the Office Action at page 2, numbered item 2, the Examiner objected to Information Disclosure Statement filed September 21, 2000. The Examiner stated that the Information Disclosure Statement fails to comply with 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2), which requires a legible copy of each U.S. and foreign patent; each publication or that portion which caused it to be listed; and all other information or that portion which caused it to be listed. Submitted herewith is a supplemental Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) accompanied by copies of the English abstracts for Japanese patent items AJ-AL, as indicated on the IDS filed September 21, 2000.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. §102(e)

In the Office Action at page 2, numbered paragraph(s), 5-9, claims 1 and 11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,585,778 to Hind et al. As claims 1 and 11 have been cancelled, Applicants respectfully submit that this rejection is moot.

ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

In the Office Action at page 3, numbered item 13, the Examiner indicated that claims 2-7, 9-10 and 12-18 are allowed. These claims remain pending.

CONCLUSION

In accordance with the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that all outstanding objections and rejections have been overcome and/or rendered moot. And further, that all pending claims patentably distinguish over the prior art. Thus, there being no further outstanding objections or rejections, the application is submitted as being in condition for allowance which action is earnestly solicited. At a minimum, this Amendment should be entered at least for purposes of Appeal as it either clarifies and/or narrows the issues for consideration by the Board.

If the Examiner has any remaining issues to be addressed, it is believed that prosecution can be expedited and possibly concluded by the Examiner contacting the undersigned attorney for a telephone interview to discuss any such remaining issues.

If there are any underpayments or overpayments of fees associated with the filing of this Amendment, please charge and/or credit the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

STAAS & HALSEY LLP

Date: December 13, 2004

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Annotated Sheet

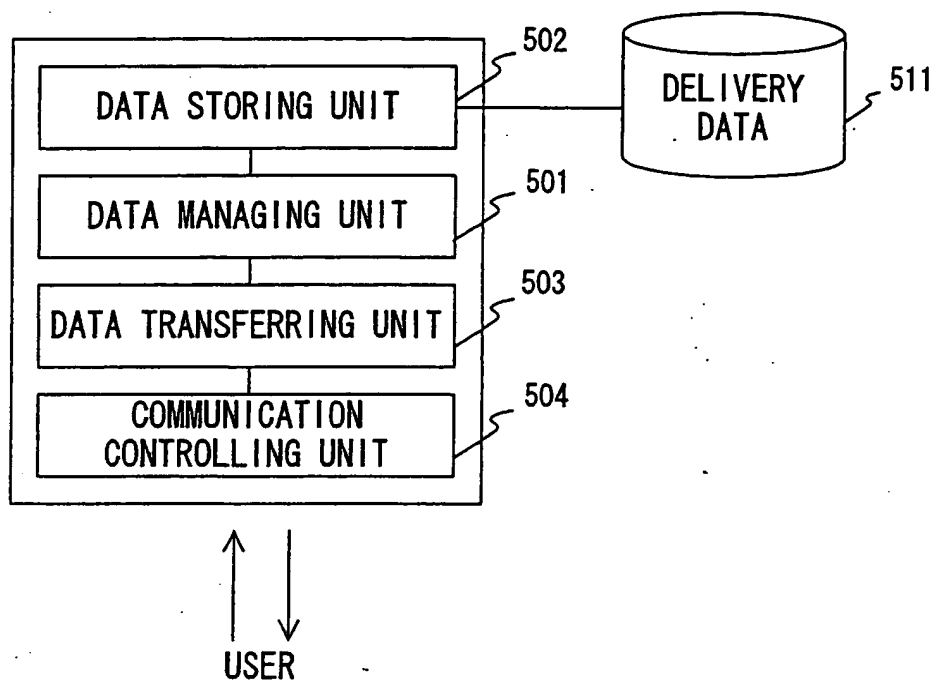


FIG. 1
(Prior Art)

Annotated Sheet

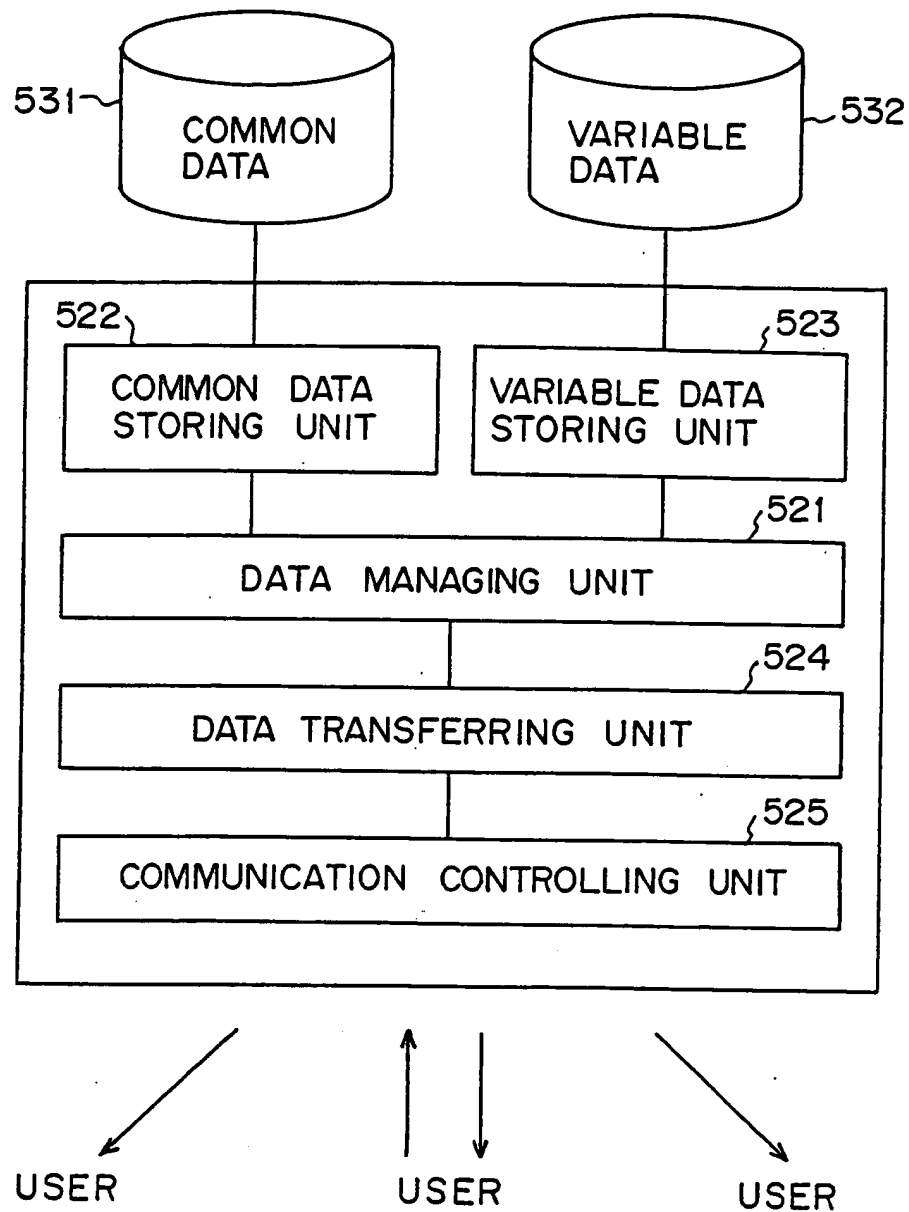


FIG. 2
(Prior Art)

Annotated Sheet

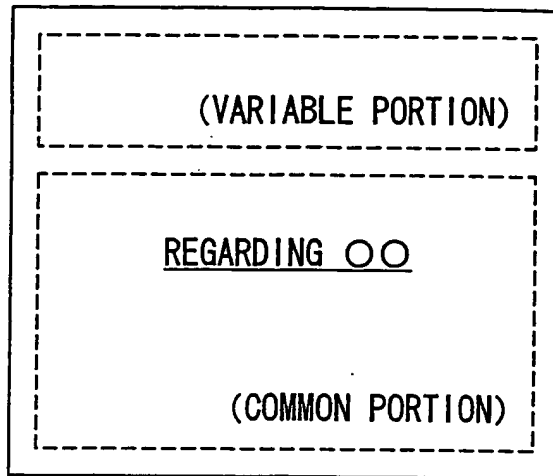


FIG. 3A
(Prior Art)

| | |
|----------------|------------------------------|
| ELEMENT DATA-1 | DESTINATION INFORMATION-1 |
| ELEMENT DATA-2 | DESTINATION INFORMATION-2 |
| ELEMENT DATA-3 | DESTINATION INFORMATION-3 |
| ... | ... |
| ELEMENT DATA-n | DESTINATION INFORMATION-n |

FIG. 3B
(Prior Art)